



Belfast City Council

Report to: Development Committee

Subject: Association of Public Service Excellence – Service Awards

Date: 25 August 2010

Reporting Officer: John McGrillen, Director of Development, Ext 3470

Contact Officer: Tim Husbands, Head of City Events and Venues, Ext 1400

Relevant Background Information

In September, the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) will be holding its annual seminar for local authorities and their public sector partners across the United Kingdom. This year, the seminar will be held in L/Derry and is called “*Armageddon or managed transformation: Where to next for Local Government’s Front Line?*” The seminar will cover a broad agenda and explore how local government sustains excellence in service delivery in this period of financial constraints. The draft programme is attached, and there are also sessions for elected representatives.

The APSE Service Awards Dinner, which takes place at this seminar, has been taking place for more than ten years and provides the United Kingdom’s local government with an opportunity to gain recognition for their work in terms of service delivery.

Key Issues

The Department has now been made aware that the Waterfront and Ulster Hall Service team has again been shortlisted as one of eight council services under the APSE awards category for “*best service team – Sports Leisure and Culture*”. As a national finalist, we have therefore been invited to attend the seminar and awards ceremony.

It is therefore recommended that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman (or their nominees) and the Director of Development and Head of City Events and Venues be granted approval to attend the event, to enable them to be present at the service awards ceremony.

Resource Implications

Financial

Awards Dinner fee per person - £119
Accommodation per person – 1 night - c£70

There is allowance in the current Service revenue estimates to cover this expenditure, as well as mileage costs to the conference.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to grant approval for the Chairman and Deputy Chairman (or his nominees) and the Director of Development and Head of City Events and Venues to attend the APSE service awards dinner.

Key to Abbreviations

APSE – Association for Public Service Excellence

Decision Tracking

The Head of City Events and Venues will liaise with APSE to make the appropriate bookings.

Documents Attached

None